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SWINTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

AND THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR

1955

SWINTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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SWINTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1955

Public Health Department,
Dunford House,
Doncaster Road,
Wath upon Dearne.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swinton Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the health of the inhabitants for the year 1955.

There were only two infant deaths recorded ; as a result the infant mortality rate is the lowest ever recorded in the district—10.6 per thousand—considerably lower than both the County rate and the National rate.

Progress continued in the provision of a water supply from the Sheffield Corporation and by the end of the year a major part of the district was receiving Sheffield water.

Continued development of the housing programme is most satisfactory and included representation of Clearance Areas for the first time since the War.

I thank the Health Committee of the Council and all the officials including Mr. Adams, the Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager, for his ready assistance. The Family Doctors and my Health Staff are also to be congratulated for their co-operation which has helped to produce these favourable statistics.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. J. CUSITER,
Medical Officer of Health.

Section A.
NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF
SWINTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Area (in acres)	1,718
Population (Census 1951)	11,922
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid 1955	12,200
Natural Increase of Population	53
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	3,360
Number of Inhabited Houses (31st December, 1955)	3,890
Nett Product of a Penny Rate	£262
Rateable Value	£48,568
Height above Sea-level	50-325 ft.
Rainfall for Year	18.42 ins.

The summer was noted for its long periods of sunshine and the rainfall over the whole period of the year was remarkably low. There was a slight recession in the electrical manufacturing trade but in general there was full employment for men and more variety of employment for women than exists in some of the neighbouring districts.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1955.

	1955	1954	England & Wales 1955
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population :			
Crude	15.57	16.98	15.0
Adjusted	14.95	16.30	—
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 population	0.41	0.25	—
Death Rate per 1,000 population :			
Crude	11.23	10.66	11.7
Adjusted	12.91	12.26	—
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	10.53	24.15	24.9
Neo-Natal Death Rate per 1,000 live births	10.53	19.32	17.3
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	5.13	Nil	0.64

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1955 IN DETAIL.

	Males	Females	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	87	92	179
Illegitimate	7	4	11
Total Live Births			190
Stillbirths : Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year :			
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths : All Ages	87	50	137
Stillbirths			
Rate per 1,000 births			25.6
Comparability Factors :			
Births			0.96
Deaths			1.15

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 births
Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis ..	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	1	5.13

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	10.53
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	11.17
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Neo-Natal death rate per 1,000 live births	10.53

Causes of Death in 1955.

	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	—	1
2. Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	1	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	1
10. Cancer of Stomach	1	—
11. Cancer of Lungs or Bronchus	4	1
12. Cancer of Breast	—	—
13. Cancer of Uterus	—	1
14. Other Cancer or Lymphatic Cancer ..	7	3
15. Leukaemia or Aleukaemia	1	—
16. Diabetes	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	11	9
18. Coronary disease or Angina	12	8
19. Hypertension with Heart disease	2	1
20. Other Heart disease	15	5
21. Other Circulatory disease	6	5
22. Influenza	—	—
23. Pneumonia	2	—
24. Bronchitis	5	—
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system ..	2	2
26. Ulcer of the Stomach and Duodenum ..	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—
28. Nephritis or Nephrosis	2	1
29. Enlarged Prostate	—	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion ..	—	1
31. Congenital Malformation	—	1
32. Other defined or ill-defined diseases ..	5	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	—
34. All other accidents	6	4
35. Suicide	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—
Total—All Causes	87	50

There was a decrease in the number of babies born in the district so that the adjusted rate is the same as that of England and Wales, i.e., 15 per 1,000; there being 17 less births than in 1954. The natural increase in the population was consequently reduced to 53. There was one maternal death due to blood clot forming in the veins of the lower limbs—the first maternal death in Swinton since 1944. Only one death was recorded from Tuberculosis but 5 from lung and bronchial cancer; the main causes of death being from degenerative conditions of the heart and blood vessels—conditions which tend to appear in older people.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, 1955.

	Causes of Death	Age	Died at
1.	Encephalocele	1 week	Home
2.	Atelectasis of Lungs and Prematurity ..	5 hours	Hospital

There were only two infant deaths under one year of age, one due to malformation the cause of which is not as yet known. The second infant death was due to prematurity associated with failure of the lungs to expand at birth.

Some cases of prematurity are due to multiple births, illness of the mother including toxæmia during pregnancy—such causes are preventable by efficient ante natal care throughout pregnancy. A number of cases of prematurity are due to defective nutrition. An important factor in the health education of young mothers is the choice of a satisfactory diet in pregnancy. The quality of the diet is of much more importance than quantity. Mothers who attend our relaxation centres are advised on the selection of suitable diet.

This is the lowest infant mortality ever recorded in the Urban District of Swinton and reflects the great advances made in child care in the post-war years.

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospital Services.

These have been augmented by the addition of 12 beds for the care of Tuberculosis at the Mexborough Montagu Hospital. These were made available from September and it is hoped to gradually build the number up to 25 beds. The Sanatorium at Wath Wood Hospital is now working to capacity and the full scale of treatment can now be given at the hospital including major chest surgery.

Ambulance Service.

The County Ambulance Service operate a depot at Dunford House where six vehicles are based. Three vehicles are equipped with wireless combined receivers and transmitters. Wireless messages are used for calling up vehicles whilst out on call. The drivers are instructed in first aid and all vehicles carry a wide range of emergency first aid equipment.

Miles patients carried—166,723 miles.

Number of patients—Males—16,037.

Females—16,202.

The Depot Superintendent is Mr. F. Hyde.

All requests for the use of the Ambulance Service must be authorised by a doctor or hospital or midwife except in cases of emergency, i.e., accidents or maternity cases and sudden grave illness. The telephone number is Wath upon Dearne 2234. Close liaison is maintained between the Ambulance service and the Medical service.

Infectious Diseases.

Ward	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Measles	Polio- myelitis	Dysen- tery	Pneu- monia	Food Poison- ing	Totals
Park ..	26	9	64	5	10	2	—	116
Bridge ..	9	1	4	1	—	—	1	16
Kilnhurst ..	1	2	30	—	—	—	—	33
Central ..	6	1	30	1	5	1	—	44
Totals ..	42	13	128	7	15	3	1	209

Scarlet Fever.

The outbreak of scarlet fever continued from the previous year. In circumstances, where effective isolation cannot be carried out at home or in severe, cases admission to Kendray Isolation Hospital is arranged. In comparison with the severe scarlatina of the past the majority of cases were mild, but severe cases still arise and there is no doubt that they require Isolation Hospital nursing care. Hospital isolation is essential where contact with food handlers or milk dealers is a possibility if the patient remains at home.

Whooping Cough.

This remains a most serious disease in infants—cases regularly arise in quite tiny infants who may sustain permanent lung damage following infection. The death rate in infancy from Whooping Cough can be high but Immunisation is effective in controlling the disease and prevents the severe manifestations in cases where the disease does develop. To protect an infant it is wise to commence immunisation at the 3rd month of age. Immunisation is free at County Clinics or Family Doctors surgeries.

Poliomyelitis.

Severe cases were notified, part of an epidemic affecting the Barnsley Area and the valley districts as far as Swinton and Mexborough. The first case was admitted to Kendray Isolation Hospital on 17/8/55. Subsequent cases were notified on the 3rd, 5th, 15th and 27th September, 17th October and the 6th December, 1955. Cases came from Valley Road (2), The Rise, William Street, Hatherley Road, Grange Road and Brookfield Avenue ; aged 3, 4, 6, 6, 7, 23 and 39. All were males save

one. Five of the cases had complete recovery after treatment in Kendray or Lodgemoor, with no remaining paralysis. One case was most severe, of the bulbar type and was still in hospital at the end of the year. The remaining two cases had residual paralysis in the right leg. Home contacts who were handling food were advised to remain in voluntary quarantine for 21 days and school contacts were excluded from school. Six of the cases were admitted to Kendray Isolation Hospital where an expert team of Doctors and Nurses did magnificent work during the outbreak. One case was admitted to Lodgemoor which also has special facilities for dealing with this disease. Each case was investigated by the Sanitary Inspector and the Medical Officer of Health and contacts were advised as to quarantine, etc.

Within recent years it was generally believed that Poliomyelitis was spread only by droplets containing the virus disseminated by sneezing or coughing, etc. More recently it is thought that many cases arise from ingesting the virus into the alimentary tract—hence the importance of hand washing before eating and drinking, and the importance of good food hygiene generally. The virus can be excreted from infected cases via the bowel for up to six weeks after infection ; many carriers are thought to exist during an epidemic.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases were notified.

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified.

Dysentery.

This complaint has long been endemic in South Yorkshire, and from time to time breaks out in epidemic form. In the Spring of the year 15 cases were notified. 105 samples of faeces were sent to the laboratory at Sheffield by the Sanitary Inspector in the course of the outbreak. The cases were mostly moderate in severity and were due to the Sonne organism. Convalescent carriers were common and very difficult to clear from infection—multiple infection in the households affected was the rule. The infection is commonly transmitted from a soiled lavatory seat transferred to the hands and eventually to the mouth. “Now wash your hands,” is a tag that would save us a lot of trouble if it were always observed.

Measles.

There was an outbreak of this infectious disease extending through the months of April, May and June. The cases were mild and chest complications were not serious.

Tuberculosis.

Number on Register at 31st December, 1955.

					Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	..	..	..	..	41	34	75
Non-Pulmonary	..	..	..	..	7	9	16
					<hr/>		
Totals	..	..	..	..	48	43	91
					<hr/>		

Number removed from Register during 1955.

				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
				Males	Females	Males	Females	
Deaths	..	..	..	1	1	—	—	2
Others (Transfers, cured, re-diagnosed, etc.)	..		..	3	4	1	2	10
Totals	..			4	5	1	2	12

Additions to Register during 1955.

				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
				Males	Females	Males	Females	
New notifications	..	..	..	3	4	—	1	8
Others (restored, transfers in, etc.)	..	..	..	2	1	—	—	3
Totals	..			5	5	—	—	11

New Notifications—Pulmonary.

							Males	Females
Age Groups.								
0—5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
5—15 „	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
15—25 „	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
25—35 „	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4
35—45 „	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
45—55 „	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Over 55	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Totals	..		..	..	..	..	3	4

No. of Contacts given B.C.G. Vaccine.—5.

				1955	1954	1955
						Eng. and Wales
Tuberculosis Death Rate	..			0.08	0.08	0.15

Tuberculosis.

There were 7 fresh notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis—6 of them under the age of 35 and 5 of them female. All the cases remain under the supervision of the Health Department and are visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor Nurse Dodds. Quite a proportion of cases are now given home treatment with drugs usually administered by the Home Nurses. Tuberculosis is a chronic infectious disease and is passed from case to case—hence the importance of diagnosing cases early before they can infect others. Little children and adolescents do not need prolonged exposure to infection to develop the disease.

Nurse Ellis regularly visits the Chest Clinic to co-ordinate the work of the Chest Physician and the Medical Officer of Health. Official sources of aid in cash grants and in kind exist for cases that require such assistance. Where the needs of a case can not be met by official sources, the Chest Physician has at his disposal an after-care Voluntary Fund. The mass miniature X-ray visited the district in the month of June, 1955, and the following is a report of the principal findings :—

Diseases and Abnormalities Discovered during Mass Radiography Survey at the Queen Street School, Swinton—June, 1955.

Total Radiographed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	507
Diseases and Abnormalities discovered :								
Tuberculosis—Active	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Inactive	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Bacterial and virus infections of the lungs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bronchiectasis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Emphysema	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pulmonary Fibrosis—non-tuberculous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Pneumoconiosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Benign tumours of the lungs and mediastinum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Carcinoma of the lung and mediastinum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Acquired abnormalities of the heart and vessels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

Mass X-ray is confidential and is only one of the many new weapons used in attack on this disease. Patients are treated at the Wath Wood Hospital (112 beds) or at Mexborough Montagu (12-25 beds) or at Sanatoria further afield including Oakwood Hall.

Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948.

This provides for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No action was taken in the district during 1955.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area and Housing.

Sewage Works.

Extensions to existing sewers have been necessary on the new housing estates.

Water Supply.

In August, 1954, a new supply main from Sheffield was completed and the major part of Swinton and Kilnhurst received water from the new main, i.e., from the Sheffield Corporation Water undertaking. At the same time the supply of water from Wath upon Dearne and Rawmarsh was cancelled. The Urban Districts existing wells at Crossley, Wortley Avenue and Birdwell were abandoned and the wells at Piccadilly and Warren Vale were retained. Sheffield water is a very soft water and is collected on a natural gathering ground on the moors only a few miles from the city in an area of high rainfall. The supplies from Piccadilly and Warren Vale are obtained from bore holes and contain a high proportion of soluble salts and in addition are very hard, both typical characteristics of water obtained from the rocks surrounding coal seams.

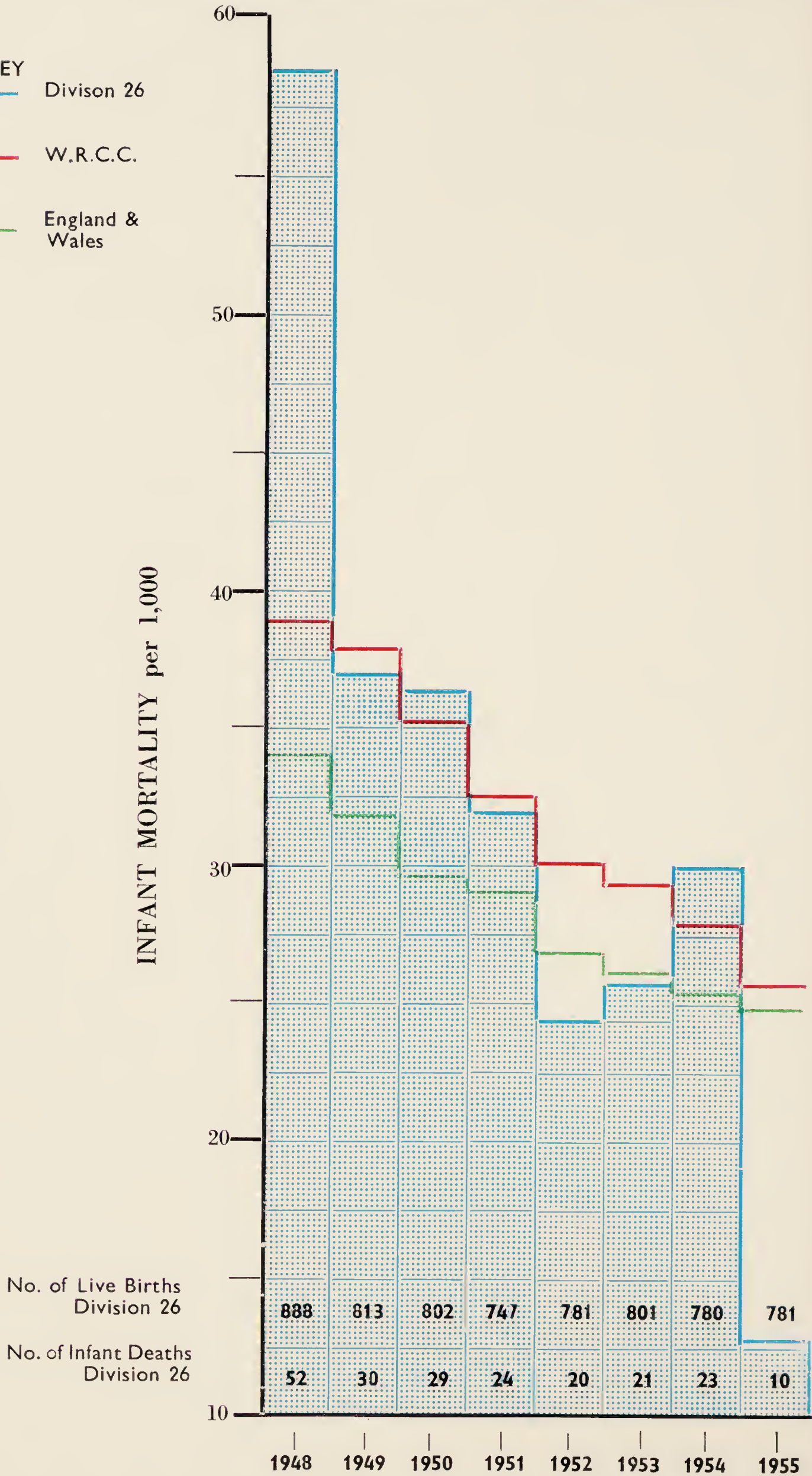
Housing.

A total of 76 permanent houses was completed for the Urban District and 19 were erected by private enterprise. Clearance orders were prepared and approved in respect of old property in Swinton and Kilnhurst, a total of forty three dwellings.

In addition 16 demolition orders were made on individual unfit houses. The district has an excellent record in dealing with unfit houses and it is very encouraging to see rebuilding, demolition and clearance schemes all proceeding within the district. Good housing eventually promotes better health and a healthier way of life.

Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000, 1948 to 1955

- KEY
- Divison 26
 - W.R.C.C.
 - England & Wales



PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES—DIVISION 26.
(Swinton, Rawmarsh and Wath upon Dearne Urban Districts).

Summary of Vital Statistics for 1954 and 1955 for Division 26.

	1955	1954
Area of Division	7,990 acres	
Estimated Population	45,250	
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population) ..	17.1	17.24
Death Rates (per 1,000 estimated population) :		
All Causes	10.6	10.65
Cancer	1.68	1.66
Heart and Circulatory	4.22	4.42
Infective and parasitic diseases, excluding T.B.	0.07	0.11
Respiratory Diseases	1.22	0.97
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.07	0.11
Other Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil
All Tuberculosis	0.07	0.11
Maternal Mortality	1.25	Nil
Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 live births) ..	12.8	29.45

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for Urban and Rural Districts in the West Riding and England and Wales for 1955.

	Live Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infective and Parasitic Dis's. excluding T.B. Death Rate	Respiratory Diseases Death Rate	Heart and Circulatory Diseases	Cancer	Tuberculosis Death Rate All Forms	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality
Division 26 ..	17.1	10.6	0.07	1.22	4.22	1.68	0.07	12.8	1.25
U.D.'s in West Riding	14.8	12.5	0.06	1.28	4.71	2.03	0.13	25.2	0.45
R.D.'s in West Riding	16.6	9.6	0.07	1.03	3.55	1.54	0.10	28.6	1.19
Administrative County ..	15.3	11.7	0.07	1.21	4.39	1.90	0.12	26.2	0.67
England and Wales ..	15.0	11.7	*	*	*	2.06	0.15	24.9	0.64

* Figures not available.

All Figures per 1,000 population except last two columns.

As previously noted in the Swinton report there was one maternal death in the Division due to a complication arising after childbirth. The infant mortality rate is the lowest ever recorded in the division and in fact is the lowest of all the Health Divisions in the West Riding. Put simply this means that fewer children under the age of one year died in the division than in any previous year—the rate being half the national

rate. This is a remarkable happening and is some significant reward for the amount of care given to young mothers and children in post war times. It is all the more praiseworthy when we realise that it is associated with a higher than national birth rate and that the division is situated in an area of mining and heavy industry. Many may take the narrow view that the survival of an infant depends on having medical attention at the birth of the child and subsequently if the child is sick—nothing could be further from the truth. High rates of survival entail adequate housing with the elimination of slums and overcrowded conditions—both deadly enemies of little children ; good feeding with the emphasis on the quality of the food, not on quantity, and efficient ante-natal care of the mother from early in pregnancy with later regular supervision of the healthy infant. Grandmothers sometimes tell young mothers they had none of these things and managed very well. They tend to forget how many little children were lost in infancy.

The vital statistics for other causes of death compare favourably with both the County and National Statistics.

Home Nursing Service.

The staff consists of 7 full-time nurses and 3 part-time.

No. of Cases Assisted						Visits
1955	..	..	1,056	..	..	30,617
1954	..	..	1,211	..	..	30,008
1953	..	..	1,034	..	..	25,348

Home Nurses may attend any person who is in need of nursing care at the request of the Family Doctor who is looking after the patient. The service includes the care of those suffering from acute illness, chronic illness, cases of tuberculosis treated at home and general care in case of the aged infirm.

Anything required for nursing the sick at home can be supplied either direct from Dunford House or from the County Pool of Nursing Equipment. All articles are supplied free, on loan, and are returned to store when no longer required. Hospital beds, fracture beds, rubber sheeting, dunlopillo mattresses, bed pans, back rests, walking aids, rest chairs for arthritic patients and wheel chairs for convalescents are supplied as required.

The difficulty in maintaining the service is due to lack of staff and the inevitable increase in work that this means for the staff remaining. This difficulty was most acute in Swinton where shortage of staff was aggravated by absences due to sickness. In spite of this the total number of visits made was in excess of the previous year. In the Autumn Nurse M. Linegar retired after many years' loyal service in the Swinton Area, leaving a permanent vacancy which was unfilled at the end of the year in spite of repeated advertisement.

Infant Welfare and Health Visiting Service.

Centre	Doctor in Charge	No. of individual children who attended during the year	Total No. of attendances made by children in previous column during the year	
			Under 1 yr. of age	Over 1 yr. of age
Wath	Dr. M. Lister	377	1574	469
West Melton ..	Dr. M. Lister	198	1151	288
Swinton	Dr. I Campbell	288	2453	738
Kilnhurst	Dr. J. Core ..	93	777	345
Rawmarsh	Dr. J. Core	340	1314	328
Parkgate	Dr. M. R. Menzies	91	466	120
Totals		1387	7735	2288

No. of Home Visits made by Health Visitors within the Division during the year :

	First Visits	Total Visits
Expectant Mothers	80	231
Children under 1 year	732	4671
Children between 1 and 5	*	8458
Other cases	*	6073
Totals	812	19433

* Figures not available.

Nine Health Visitors are employed in the Division. All have the combined qualification of Nurse and Midwife and in addition have attended a years training at college before qualifying as a Health Visitor. They are also employed as School Nurses so that one person fills the dual role.

The present role of the Health Visitor includes responsibility for advising the whole family in Health matters. Their work is no longer confined to the care of mothers and children only. The Health Visitor must work in close contact with the Family Doctor, and every effort has been made to increase co-operation where this has been found to be unsatisfactory.

The Health Visitors attend all the Infant Welfare Centres and advise the mothers on the infants diet, clothing, exercise, etc. They follow the progress of all premature babies until a satisfactory standard of physical development has been attained as the premature infant is more prone to ill health in the first few weeks of life. They visit the homes of the mothers when the mothers are unable to attend the Centres. They advise on immunisation procedure and vaccination against smallpox and arrange for this to be performed by the Doctors at the Infant Welfare Centre or by the Family Doctor.

From time to time they are asked to prepare reports on the progress of children by the Child Health Specialist or by Hospital Physicians or Surgeons who have had sick children under their care. They visit all

homes including those of substandard families and can often be of assistance in obtaining improvement in the physical care of the children in such families, who may suffer neglect due to the indifference of their parents to the daily needs of young children.

The Health Visitor also supervises the Home Help Service and visits when possible all the aged people in her district who may be living alone and in need of a little friendly assistance from time to time. They assist the aged in obtaining assistance from many official sources, e.g., the National Assistance Board, the Welfare Officer, Nursing Association (in Swinton) or from the Aged Peoples Welfare Committees in the whole of the Division. As Nurses they attend all the special clinics including Eye Clinics, Ear, Nose and Throat, Orthopaedic, Ante-Natal and the special Clinics organised by the School Medical Service to follow up the health of those children who are handicapped or suffering from ill health. Two of the Health Visitors attend at Wath Wood Tuberculosis Hospital and the Chest Clinic Out Patients at Mexborough to maintain contact between patients, the Medical Officer of Health and the Chest Physician and to assist the patients in any matters of domestic difficulty brought about by their illness. They also report to the Divisional Medical Officer any children under school age who may be in need of special educational treatment due to blindness, deafness, mental backwardness or physical disability. In some of these conditions it is essential that education should begin at a very early age ; hence the need for early reporting.

Hospital medical staff require knowledge from time to time about the home circumstances of a patient particularly when about to discharge a handicapped person or an aged and infirm patient. The Health Visitor is responsible for supplying such reports to the Divisional Medical Officer.

Maternity Services.

BIRTHS.

				Domiciliary	Institutional	Proportion of Domiciliary to Institutional
Wath .. .. .	..	..	..	153	103	8 : 5
Swinton .. ..	..	..	..	117	78	3 : 2
Rawmarsh .. ..	..	..	..	191	159	5 : 4

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Clinic	Doctor in Charge	No. of women who attended	No. of women who attended for blood exam. only	Total No. of attendances made by women
Wath	Dr. D. Chapman	67	60	493
Swinton	Dr. H. H. Smith	139	—	651
Rawmarsh	Dr. M. Scott	227	—	882
Totals		433	60	2026

POST NATAL CLINICS.

(Held jointly with Ante-Natal Clinics).

Clinic	Doctor in Charge	Number of women who attended	Total No. of attendances made by women
Wath	Dr. D. Chapman	21	22
Swinton ..	Dr. H. H. Smith	36	38
Rawmarsh ..	Dr. M. Scott	30	32
Totals ..		87	92

RELAXATION CLASSES.

Clinic	Officer in Charge	Number of women who attended	Total No. of attendances made by women
Swinton ..	Midwife F. Launder	43	260
Wath	Midwife M. Barber	108	1007
*Rawmarsh ..	Midwife L. Bamford	6	25

* Commenced 27/10/55.

There was one maternal death in the Division, the first for three years. This was due to a condition associated with the puerperium.

The staff of the Midwifery service consists of 9 Midwives and 1 relief. 461 mothers were confined at home or 59% of all confinements in the division. In 422 cases the Midwife in attendance delivered the patient without the assistance of the Family Doctor. Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Wath upon Dearne, Swinton and Rawmarsh and Family Doctors are notified of the attendance of mothers at these Clinics and of any abnormalities that ensue. Complete blood investigation is carried out at the clinics, as failure to do this may mean subsequent delay of a blood transfusion if necessary for the mother or baby and although this is seldom required, when it is required it is usually a matter of some urgency. Similarly mothers with certain types of blood may lose their babies unnecessarily if the blood has not been checked for Rhesus antibodies.

It is in the interest of the mother and her unborn child to book a Family Doctor and a Midwife early in pregnancy. There is a tendency to book later in pregnancy, and some times in advanced pregnancy. This can only have the effect of lowering the standard of Ante-Natal care and eventually will have unhappy consequences for the mother and child in some cases. If Ante-Natal care is to be of value in safeguarding the health of the mother and child it must be commenced early in pregnancy and be continued until term.

Where mothers do not attend an Ante-Natal Clinic and are to be delivered at home it is the duty of the midwife to visit them in their homes. It is essential that the Midwife and mother get to know each

other well ; the Midwife must keep in direct contact with the Family Doctor. When Mothers are admitted to hospital in labour or in advanced pregnancy it is wise for the Midwife to accompany the case to hospital and this is arranged when it is possible.

All mothers are trained in the use of Gas and Air and Pethidine—substances used for analgesia in childbirth. The Midwives regularly attend Refresher Courses at major centres of midwifery so that they are kept up to date—two of the Midwives attended such courses during the year.

The success of the relaxation classes held at Swinton and Wath and commencing in Rawmarsh has been encouraging. The instruction is primarily intended for mothers expecting their first baby and they are advised about the process of childbirth and taught how to assist this during delivery. The Midwives instructing have been trained for this work. These classes are conducted for all mothers whether they attend Ante-Natal Clinics or not and include the care of the new born child and the mother's diet in pregnancy, both vital factors for healthy babies and mothers.

PREMATURE BIRTHS.

District	Born Alive			Still-born			No. Rem. to Hosp. after Birth	No. who survived 28 days		
	At Home	In Hosp.	Total	At Home	In Hosp.	Total		At Home	In Hosp.	Total
Wath	12	6	18	2	3	5	1	11	6	17
Swinton	5	5	10	—	3	3	1	5	4	9
Rawmarsh	7	19	26	2	4	6	1	6	15	21
Totals	24	30	54	4	10	14	3	22	25	47

There were 54 premature births of which 47 were surviving at the end of one month. Thus out of the 10 infant deaths in the whole division 7 were due to prematurity or its associated defects. Prematurity is the main cause of infant mortality and can only be prevented by adequate Ante-Natal care and by good nutrition of the mother and good living conditions. In some cases of prematurity the cause is imperfectly understood but in mothers in the Registrar General's higher social groups it is very rare.

Care of the Unmarried Mother and her Child.

There were 27 illegitimate births in the division. 24 of these came to our notice. In 22 cases the mother kept the baby—this is the best solution if it is possible to do so. In 1 case the infant was adopted. Special care is devoted to this section of the community as they tend to avoid ante-natal supervision and they require sympathetic assistance. Miss Spooner, a Voluntary Welfare Worker of the Church of England, assists these cases irrespective of religion and advice and accommodation is arranged for the confinement by the Health Committee of the County Council.

Welfare Foods.

The foods concerned are National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice and Vitamin A and D Tablets. These are sold at Dunford House and Infant Welfare Centres throughout the Health Division by clerical staff and not by Nurses who are more suitably employed in dealing with any questions the mother may have concerning infant welfare.

Domestic Help Service.

Establishment of Domestic Helps 24 Full time

No. of Domestic Helps employed 62 Part time

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year
ended 31st December, 1955 :

	No. of Cases	Hours
1. Maternity (including expectant mothers) ..	73	6009
2. Tuberculosis	2	266
3. Chronic sick (a) Aged 65+	284	45795
(b) Under 65	6	3570
4. Others	13	1494
Totals	378	57134

	1953	1954	1955
Average No. of staff (part-time) ..	47	52	62
Total Hours	39,399	48,790	57,134

Domestic Helps are required where assistance is necessary in running the home owing to illness or old age or a home confinement ; or some other circumstances. The demand increases yearly. The service is not free and every case is assessed by the Divisional Welfare Officer. In point of fact Most Old Age Pensioners do not contribute to the cost of the Service. The establishment of home helps is a definite one and the amount of assistance given to any one case depends on the total demands on the service. If someone needs more assistance someone else has to suffer a reduction. The service is supervised by the Health Visitors and is a most valuable service as it reduces the demand for County Home Accommodation for the aged and in association with the Home Nursing service reduces the demand for hospital beds for the chronic sick.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Mentally Defective Persons.

	Division No. 26
1. (a) Total No.	121
(b) No. ascertained during 1954	4
2. (a) No. under Guardianship	2
(b) No. under Statutory Supervision	99
(c) No. under Voluntary Supervision or Observation	15
(d) No. on licence from Institutions	2
3. (a) No. awaiting Institution admission	7
(b) No. attending Group Training Classes	19
(c) No. receiving Home Training	11
(d) No. in Remunerative Employment	40

There is an increasing tendency for those suffering from mental ill-health to be admitted in a voluntary fashion to mental hospital for treatment. On discharge if after care and assistance is necessary this can be supplied by the Social Worker, Miss Ball, who visits the patients in their homes. Miss Ball also supervises those Mental Defectives on licence from institutions and assists them in obtaining employment. The demands on the services of the Social Worker are becoming increasingly heavy.

For the Mental Defectives who are capable of benefiting by simple training, Group Training Classes are held at Centres in each of the Urban Districts. At present these Centres are held in the existing premises at Dunford House, Rock House and Barbers Avenue and whilst these premises are not designed for this purpose it is the best we can do in the circumstances. Plans are in being for the construction of an Occupation Centre at Wath upon Dearne but these have had to be held in abeyance due to active mining subsidence. Mrs. O'Leary resigned as an assistant Home Teacher at the end of the year. Mrs. L. Feasey, a fully qualified Mental Health Home Teacher, continued in charge of the group training. The children and adults attending continue to improve in social behaviour and some are becoming quite skilled in simple crafts. The position regarding admission of urgent cases to suitable institutions is greatly improved compared with previous reports but this improvement can only be maintained if more accommodation is made available and more candidates come forward for training as Mental Health Nurses.

CHILDREN LIKELY TO BE NEGLECTED OR ILL-TREATED IN THEIR OWN HOMES.

From time to time Health Visitors, Children's Officers and School Welfare Officers and other members of the Public report cases where investigation is called for in order to prevent child neglect. A number of such cases are kept under constant review. Liaison is maintained with the N.S.P.C.C. and all others interested in the welfare of children. The Divisional Medical Officer is the officer appointed for the co-ordination of this service. It was not found necessary to take any Court action in the division in 1955. The great majority of children are well cared for with the result that the neglected child appears unduly prominent.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The Immunisation rate in school children is excellent and well above the ministry minimum of 75%. Consent is seldom refused in the case of school children. In the pre-school group of children the immunisation rate is poor and if there is an outbreak of Diphtheria in the area it is the pre-school children who will give us cause for concern. The highest mortality in the disease is usually in infancy ; all the more reason why the child should receive protection early.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION.

Number of Persons Vaccinated or Re-vaccinated during 1955.

Age at 31.12.55 <i>i.e.</i> , born in years	Under 1 1955	1—4 1951/54	5—14 1941/50	15 or over before 1941	Total
No. vaccinated :					
Wath	46	14	—	2	62
Swinton	24	1	2	5	32
Rawmarsh.. ..	77	5	1	2	85
No. re-vaccinated :					
Wath	—	—	—	—	—
Swinton	—	—	—	16	16
Rawmarsh.. ..	—	—	—	1	1

Protection by vaccination remains the only safeguard against this virus disease which as a rule has a mortality in the region of 30%. Owing to the rapid increase in the rate of travel it is likely that Smallpox will be introduced to the country from time to time. The best time to be vaccinated is in infancy when the complication rate is negligible. Subsequent re-vaccination in later life will then produce minimum disturbance and reaction.

There was an increase in the number of infants vaccinated in each of the three districts.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

This is offered at all infant welfare centres to children under 4 years of age. Children should be protected in infancy at the third to the six month of age. The vaccine protects against severe attacks of the disease and in 75-80% prevents the disease from developing at all. This disease now causes more deaths and disability in infancy than any other infectious disease.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

There are 8,700 scholars on the school registers in the division. All are medically examined on entry to school, and since July, 1955, the 7-8 year group and on entry and leaving Secondary Schools. In cases where further examination is necessary this is arranged by appointment. Family Doctors are consulted before any scholar is referred to a Consultant School Clinic and are similarly notified of all Consultants' Reports.

Dr. C. Harvey, Paediatrician to the County Council, conducts regular Clinics at Barbers Avenue and the local Hospitals so that continuous specialist supervision is possible when required.

Dr. M. R. Menzies in addition to her work in the School Health Service is responsible for the ascertainment of the various categories of handicapped pupils and an increasing amount of time has to be spent on this every year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Urban District	No. of Children Immunised in 1955			No. of Children given booster doses during 1955		No. of Children Immunised at any time up to 31/12/55			Estimated Mid-Year Population		Percentage	
	Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.	Total			Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.	Total	Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.	Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.
Wath	130	25	155	232		534	1958	2492	1175	2277	45.4	86.0
Swinton	110	39	149	20		524	1751	2275	943	1892	55.6	92.5
Rawmarsh	174	120	294	550		610	2841	3451	1601	3033	38.1	93.7

School Clinics.

Ultra Violet Light	..	..	..	..	Wath and Rawmarsh.
Ophthalmic Clinics	..	..	..	..	Wath and Rawmarsh.
Child Guidance Clinic		..	..	..	Rawmarsh.
Paediatric Clinic	..	..	..	..	Rawmarsh.
Orthopaedic Clinic	..	..	..	..	Rawmarsh.
E.N.T. Clinic	..	..	..	..	Montagu Hospital.

Inspections of School Children, 1955.

Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	938
7-8 year group	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	532
Last year primary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	478
1st year secondary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Last year secondary		..	..	..	..	..	..	684
Other periodic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
								2635
								2654
No. of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	886
No. of Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3540
								6175

Cleanliness of School Children and Head Infestation.

	Total Children Infested	School Population	Percentage Infested
Rawmarsh and Parkgate	.. 332	3466	9.6
Swinton and Kilnhurst	.. 41	1563	2.6
Wath and West Melton	.. 89	2770	3.2

Comparative Figures.

	1954	1955	W.R.C.C. 1955
Total No. infested	.. 568	462	—
Total Children	.. 7603	7799	—
Total Percentage	7.5	5.9	4.5

Detailed Breakdown in Figures.

District	GIRLS			BOYS		
	No. Infested	Popula- tion	Percent- age	No. Infested	Popula- tion	Percent- age
Rawmarsh	233	1664	14.0	99	1802	5.5
Swinton	34	767	4.4	7	796	0.9
Wath	77	1338	5.8	12	1432	0.8
Division	344	3769	9.1	118	4030	2.9

The School Population is an average population for the year and excludes the Grammar School. There was an improvement in cleanliness throughout the whole Division in the course of the year.

Care of Handicapped Children.

Day School for E.S.N. Pupils	5
Residential School for E.S.N. Pupils	4
Hostel for Maladjusted Boys	—
Residential School for Deaf or Partially Deaf Pupils	6
Residential School for Deaf E.S.N. Pupils	1
Residential School for Partially-sighted pupils	2
Residential School for Blind Pupils	—
Residential School for Delicate Pupils	1
Residential School for Spastic Pupils	4
Orthopaedic Hospital School	—
	—
	23
	—
No. of children receiving Home Education	3
Total No. of children receiving Education other than at an ordinary school	26

TUBERCULIN JELLY TESTING OF SCHOOL ENTRANTS.

All School Entrants, whose parents have given written consent, have been jelly tested. The results are as follows :—

No. Tested		No. Positive		No. Negative	
Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
427	425	7	11	420	414

All positives have been notified to their respective Family Doctors and have been referred to the Chest Physician at the local Chest Clinic, with the exception of one case, resident in a neighbouring Division, who was referred to the School Medical Officer in that area.

None of the cases was found to be suffering from active Tuberculosis.

Details of Medical Examinations Carried Out for Various Authorities.

College Entrants examined	39
Teachers examined	6
Superannuation Examinations for (County)	11
Superannuation Examinations for (Local Councils)	1

SWINTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager for the Year ending 31st December, 1955.

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

Council Offices,
SWINTON,
Mexborough.
March, 1956.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swinton Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Lawrence, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on work done in this Department during the year 1955.

INSPECTION WORK. Public Health Acts.

Drainage:	No.
Choked, removed, i.e. by owners	32
by Council under scheme (prepayment by owners)	61
New drains provided and tested	28
Old drains tested	11
Old drains taken up and disbanded	11
New and additional gullies provided	14
Old gullies done away with	7
Inspection Chambers:	
Provided where previously non-existent	7
Repairs to existing chambers	4
Houses:	
Smoke nuisance (domestic)	8
Defective Chimneys, Flashings, Flues, Stacks and Pots ..	117
Defective ovens renewed	24
Defective firebars renewed	122
Defective side boilers renewed (Yorkshire range)	6
Fireplaces reset, repaired and renewed	133
Plastering of internal walls and ceilings	191
Dampness of walls and ceilings remedied	142
Damp proof courses inserted in walls	4
Washing coppers (coal) renewed	8
Window frames, sashes and cords renewed and repaired ..	141
Doors repaired and renewed	81
Floors renewed and repaired	17
Roofs repaired	152
Pointing of house walls	2

Defective flashings to windows, bays, etc.	..	..	..	31
Animals as a nuisance	..	..	..	3
Flooded cellars dealt with	..	..	..	12
Stairs and stairways repaired	..	..	..	5
Food stores (lack of light and ventilation)	..	..	..	6
General	..	..	..	6

Roof Drainage:

Repairs and renewals of eaves, gutters and fallpipes	..	..	129
Fallpipes as drain ventilators, disconnected	..	..	2

Sinks and Sink Drainage:

Sinks and sink waste pipes renewed	82
Defects in drainage	..	..	31

General:

Verminous houses	8
------------------	----	----	---

Water Closets:

General defects remedied (cisterns and basins)	171
--	----	----	-----

Informal Notices:

Served (written and verbal)	..	..	305
Letters written as reminders to all notices	..	..	12
Letters written on various general subjects	..	..	33

Formal Notices: (Total)

Section 93 P.H.A. 1936	..	..	10
Section 9 Housing Act, 1936	..	..	5
Section 11 Housing Act, 1936	..	..	1
Demolition Orders served and operative	..	..	3

Other Notices served:

Housing Act 1936, Section 11	..	..	12
Housing Act 1936, Section 155	..	..	1
Housing Act 1936, Section 157	..	..	4
Housing Act 1936/1952 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 (3.b. 3rd Sch.)	..	..	116
Housing Act 1936/1952 (S.41(1)) and Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 (S.9)	..	..	35
Housing Act 1936/1952 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954. (Notices of Confirmation of Clearance Order)	..	..	58

In hand at 31st December, 1955:

Formal	..	..	4
Informal	..	..	16

Additional Fresh Water Closets provided: (Total)

Additional to existing dwelling houses	8
New houses	106
Other buildings	3

Additional Pail Closets provided:

Other buildings	3
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Closets done away with: (Total)	28
--	----	----	----	----	----	----

Water Closets (Condemned houses)	23
----------------------------------	----	----	----	----

Water Closets (Other buildings)	3
---------------------------------	----	----	----	---

Privies (Condemned houses)	2
----------------------------	----	----	----	---

Ashpits done away with:

Conversion to dust bin	1
------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

Condemned houses	2
------------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

Sanitary Dust Bins: (Total)	444
------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Replacement by Council against G.R. Fund:

To Council Houses	197
-------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

To new Council Houses	76
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----

To privately owned houses	166
---------------------------	----	----	----	-----

By Council on prepayment from private owners	..	5
--	----	---

Struck off (Condemned Houses)	20
--------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

Additional Bins : New houses	93
-------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

Conversion of ashpit	2
----------------------	----	----	----	---

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE (1).**Transport:**

One Fore and Aft S. and D. Tipping and Loading Freighter 16/18 cube yard body.

One S. and D. Side Filling Freighter, with 9 cube yard body.

One Morris Commercial 30 cwts. G. P. Lorry.

Labour:

One driver and six fillers for the Fore and Aft Freighter.

One driver and one filler for the side filling Freighter (when on bins collection).

One driver for Morris Lorry.

Two tip levellers.

Two women, paper bailing.

One driver and six fillers with the Fore and Aft vehicle work all week bin emptying.

One driver and one filler (taken from tip levelling) for two days per week emptying bins with the 9 cube yard Freighter (at places inaccessible to the Fore and Aft Tipping vehicle) and this Freighter then works on regular collection of salvage from industrial and shop premises and other work as necessary for the remainder of the week, with driver only.

Disposal:

100% controlled tipping at the Sewage Works Tip.

The tipping space at this tip is almost complete and provision of another site for tipping is being prepared by the removal of the top soil to level out an area contained in the Thomas Street, Swinton, housing site.

This will not last very long, so that the problem of another tipping site is of important priority also in view of the fact that the land in Carlisle Street, which was purchased for tipping purposes, has been sold for the erection of a Bacon Factory on it.

Collection.

The work of collection of house refuse from bins has been generally satisfactory, and at least, a weekly collection has been maintained throughout the year.

In view of the considerable addition of new houses, erected post-war without additional labour and transport being provided, it was confirmed that the agreement with the men concerned, to work No. 9 Freighter with gang, an extra half hour per day during winter period and one hour per day during summer period. This has proved to be satisfactorily workable with good results.

AMOUNT OF WORK DONE.

Total pits emptied	20
Total loads removed (all refuse)	1134
i.e. Ashpits refuse only, Freighter loads	4
Dry refuse, bins only: Freighter No. 9	952
Freighter No. 7	178
Loads tipped on Council Tips	1134
Mileage Run (Total)	12259
Freighter No. 9	5293
Freighter No. 7	4242
Morris Lorry	2724
Salvage Work (Total Loads)	943
Morris Lorry	17
Freighter No. 7	926

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE (3)

Working Costs.

	Wages			Working Costs			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Collection.									
Refuse	2974	0	0						
Repairs, plant and tools				28	0	0			
Holidays and sickness				171	0	0			
							3173	0	0
Transport.									
Lorries	1034	0	0						
Holidays and sickness				—					
Lorries (Repairs and renewals —Fund contribution)				535	0	0			
Lorries (Licenses, insurances, etc.)				176	0	0			
Lorries (Petrol, oil, etc.)				614	0	0			

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE (2)

ANALYSIS OF WEIGHTS

Vehicle	Refuse	Loads	Tons	Average weight per load T. C. Q.	Average weight per bin lbs.	Average number of bins per load	Tipping Sew. works Tons	Number of bins
Fr. No. 9 .. Fr. No. 7 ..	Bins Bins	952 178	5224 370	5 9 3 2 1 2	72.67 60.40	169 77	5224 370	161018 13732
Fr. No. 7 ..	Nightsoil	4	7	1 14 2	—	—	7	—
Fr. No. 7 .. Morris ..	Salvage Salvage	926 } 17 }	103½	—	—	—	—	—
		2077	5704½	—	—	—	5601	174750

Transport.

	Wages			Working Costs			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Lorries (Less allocation to salvage)			Cr.	300	0	0			
Depot (Annual charge) ..				85	0	0			
							2144	0	0

Disposal.

Wages	693	0	0						
Holidays and sickness ..				68	0	0			
Materials, tools, etc. ..				25	0	0			
Workmen's hut				30	0	0			
							816	0	0

Salvage of Materials.

Wages	517	0	0						
Holidays and sickness ..				38	0	0			
Transport				300	0	0			
Materials (including new baling press—£63) ..				115	0	0			
							970	0	0
	5218	0	0	1885	0	0	7103	0	0

Deductions from Gross Cost.

Drain clearances	15	0	0						
Salvage income	864	0	0				879	0	0
							Nett Cost	£6224	0 0

SUMMARY OF NETT COSTS.

	£	s.	d.
Collection	5408	0	0
Disposal	816	0	0
	£6224	0	0

UNIT COSTS.

Net cost per ton			Net cost per 1000 population			Net cost per 1000 premises		
Collection	Disposal	Total	Collection	Disposal	Total	Collection	Disposal	Total
s. d. 22 2	s. d. 2 11	s. d. 25 1	£ 443	£ 67	£ 510	£ 1390	£ 210	£ 1600

The above figures are compared with the figures for Urban Districts given in the Annual Return of the Ministry on Public Cleansing Costing returns for 1954-1955.

Collection.

	Per ton		Annual net cost			
			per 1000 popul'n		per 1000 premises	
	Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest
	s. d.	s. d.	£	£	£	£
	51 11	5 1	742	254	2319	721
Swinton ..	22s. 2d.		£443		£1390	

Disposal.

	24 1	53 10 Cr.	287	667 Cr.	940	2092 Cr.
Swinton ..	2s. 11d.		£67		£210	

Collection and Disposal.

	56 4	10 11 Cr.	771	135 Cr.	2525	424 Cr.
Swinton ..	25s. 1d.		£510		£1600	

SALVAGE OF MATERIALS.

Year ended 31st December, 1955.

	Detail Bales	Weights			£	s.	d.
		T.	C.	Q.			
Paper, Cardboard, etc.							
Mixed paper	2262	76	18	2	605	14	4
Cardboard		26	10	1	258	7	0
Totals		103	8	3	£864	1	4

The gross tonnage, the gross revenue and the materials received for Salvage from 20th March, 1940, to 31st December, 1955, is set out as follows :—

Paper.	Detail Bales	Weights			T.	C.	Q.
		T.	C.	Q.			
Mixed	23175	1145	14	0			
Selected		81	16	3			
Cardboard		188	12	1			
Newspaper		13	18	2			
					1430	1	2

Scrap.

Tins		182	13	3			
Steel		17	9	1			
Heavy		99	8	0			
Light		31	11	3			
					331	2	3

Textiles.

Rags		35	4	3			
Wools		1	3	0			
Bagging		15	19	2			
					52	7	1

Jars and Bottles.				Detail	Weights			T. C. Q.		
				Doz.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
Jars—2 lbs.	..	..	..	1858	9	2	1			
1 lb.	..	..	..	16140	78	19	2			
Pickle jars	..	..	..	184		18	0			
Wine bottles	..	..	..	2441	12	0	0			
					<hr/>			100	19	3
Cullet	..	..	..	..	193	12	0	193	12	0
Non-Ferrous Metals	..	..	..	..	5	12	0	5	12	0
Household Bones	..	..	..	..	14	7	0	14	7	0
Rubber	..	..	..	..	11	10	1	11	10	1
					<hr/>			2139	12	2
					<hr/>					

Gross Revenue—£13,389 19s. 0d.

I set out below the numbers and kinds of the sanitary conveniences in the district at the year-end.

				No.	No. of houses with	No. of other buildings with
Ashpits	..	..	..	5	11	0
Privies	..	..	..	8	11	0
Water Closets :						
Fresh water (Pedestal)	..	..	..	4823	3856	125
Fresh water (Troughs)	..	..	..	10	1	1
Waste water	..	..	..	0	0	0
Pail closets	..	..	..	28	11	8
Sanitary dustbins	..	..	..	3973	3856	63

Complaints of Nuisances Received.

Complaints of matters requiring attention received and dealt with during the year were 150 in number, as set out below :—

Choked drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	71
W.C. defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Flooded cellars	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective window	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dampness	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Housing	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Defective roof	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Defective fallpipes and gutters	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective sinks and pipes	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective fireplaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Defective plaster	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective dust bins	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
General	..	..	..	..	..	..	9

VARIOUS PREMISES (INSPECTIONS AND RECORDS).

Factories.

Bakehouses :

On register	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

Factories :

On register	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
With mechanised power	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Without mechanised power	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47

5 letters were written in connection with Factories.

One Notice under Section 8 (3) was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

The Council are members of the National Smoke Abatement Society.

Fifteen observations of chimneys were carried out during the year, as a result of which, no formal action was necessary.

It has again been necessary to make a repeat complaint to the Sheffield and District Smoke Abatement Committee against the emission of smoke and grit from the Kilnhurst Colliery chimneys (which are situate in the Rawmarsh Urban District and within the district of that Smoke Abatement Committee) into Kilnhurst village. No improvement has been effected and the nuisance still occurs regularly.

Schools.

Number of visits	17
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There is still one school in the district provided with a series of out-dated water closets, i.e., range of troughs, and it would appear to be early necessary that these be brought up to date by the provision of independent pedestal closets.

Offensive Trades.

Number of inspections (Total)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72
Fish frying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Maggot breeder	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Marine stores	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Premises generally are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Following a fairly widespread general complaint as to an effluvium nuisance which affected particularly the Bridge Ward area during the summer, allegedly from the maggot breeding premises, I took up the matter with the owners of these premises who readily agreed to take any steps to try to reduce any effluvium nuisance which may arise as a result of their trade. At their suggestion I arranged with the manufacturers of an Ultra-Violet system for deodorisation of the atmosphere of the breeding vats to meet the owners on the site. It was agreed to install the system in one building only at present housing 12 breeding vats, to

treat all the buildings gradually if the treatment was successful, in view of the great cost of the equipment. This equipment could not be available (owing to long delivery date) until at the earliest in February next year, but it should be possible to complete the installation of these first units in readiness for the working season of 1956, and it is hoped that considerable improvement will be effected. The earnest co-operation of the owners in this matter can be well appreciated.

Slaughter Houses.

Two licences, i.e., Knackers Yard, in force.

Number of inspections	11
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One licence for a Knackers Yard (on the maggot breeding premises) is still granted with the condition imposed that the products of slaughter must be used solely in connection with the breeding of maggots.

Two licences under Section 57 F. and D. A. 1938 for Slaughter houses for private slaughtering, were granted during the year. One of these slaughterhouses has never been used throughout the year.

Inspections are made weekly at time of slaughter.

Butchers' Shops.

Number	12
--------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Inspections are made regularly.

Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924.

Number of carcasses inspected on :

Unlicensed premises	..	..	..	..	..	Pigs 27
Licensed premises	..	..	Beast 93, Sheep 207, Pigs 4			

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Eleven licenses were renewed and two new licenses were granted during the year, making the number of licenses in force at the year end, thirteen.

Canal Boats.

Number on register	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	15

Two new boats were registered during the year.

Infectious Diseases.

Number of visits (Total)	..	..	..	..	..	..	63
After Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	41	
After Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	5	
After Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	17	

Entertainment Houses.

Three visits were made to the Picture House during the year—outside entertainment hours.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Total of work done during the year is as follows :—

Premises dealt with	No. of points baited	Actual baits laid		Actual carcasses recovered Rats
		Pre-bait	Poison	
RATS :				
Private 8	48	406	406	7
L.A. sewers	Manholes 38	38	38	—
MICE :				
Private 6	54	299	299	12

Materials used were :—

Combined baits and poison—Warfarin.

Private premises dealt with for rats were Factories.

Private premises treated for mice were schools and school feeding centres.

The results achieved were most successful, as premises infested were definitely relieved.

During the year, I carried out treatment of the Council's sewer manholes against rats, as follows :—

A Test Baiting to cover the whole of the manholes in the district, using only 10% of the total number and which involved 38 manholes, were baited once only to ascertain the extent of any infestation there may be, and the result was there being only partial takes in 7 of these manholes.

As a result, it was decided that a maintenance test be made before the end of the financial year but this was not carried out in this period under review.

Shops Act, 1950.

Twenty-two visits under Section 38 were paid to shops.

One shop was provided with hot and cold water services for the use of the staff.

The provision of hot and cold water services and sanitary accommodation for the staff of a wholesale grocery warehouse is in hand. Drainage has been provided but water services not connected at the year end.

Drain Stoppages.

In 61 instances, drains of privately owned properties were cleared by this Department under the Scheme inaugurated for removing simple stoppages from drains, at a fixed charge of 5/-d. thus preventing continuing nuisances arising from this source.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Section 14 (1) (a).

One premise was registered during the year for the sale of pre-packed (only) ice cream which makes the total number of premises on the register—35.

Number of inspections made	81
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Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Cleanliness in Food Shops.

Inspections are frequently made of shops where food is stored and sold, and following the leaflets issued to the whole of the food shops in the district, requesting the dealer to display prominently, for the exclusion of dogs from the shop and which received whole-hearted co-operation, satisfactory results have been obtained. Renewal of these leaflets is made on application to me.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949-53.

Number of supplementary licences in force for :—

(a) Pasteurised Milk ..	..	..	..	..	..	7
(b) Sterilised Milk ..	..	..	..	..	..	19

Number of inspections made of Licensed premises were 62.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

Number of supplementary licences in force for :—

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk ..	..	..	..	..	7
(b) Accredited (to 30/9/54) ..	..	..	..	..	0

Number of inspections made of Licensed premises were 20.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses found to be infested ..	..	..	..	7
Number disinfected ..	..	..	..	6
Other houses found to be infested ..	..	..	..	8
Number disinfected ..	..	..	..	8

Methods adopted for disinfestation is generally to supply the occupiers affected with the necessary materials so that the treatment can be more or less continuously applied by them, but spray with insecticide is carried out by the Department when and where necessary.

A number of houses were infested with Black Clocks and these were successfully treated with Gamexane powder.

Housing Acts.

The position during the year owing to the shortage of labour and materials and particularly the economic position on privately owned houses has not eased any, with the result that the internal and external repairs of properties, has been done only under great difficulty.

INSPECTION OF FOODSTUFFS.

The following articles of food have been condemned by me as unfit for human consumption, in every case surrendered, and were destroyed.

						No.	Weight lbs.
Article							
Tinned milk ..	..	..	..	..	..	167	145
Tinned fish ..	..	..	..	..	..	7	5
Canned meats ..	..	..	..	..	..	30	44
Tinned soups and preserves	..	..	..	..	..	4	4
Tinned vegetables ..	..	..	..	..	..	97	154
Tinned fruit ..	..	..	..	..	..	98	129
Fresh fish ..	..	..	..	..	..	4	119
Cheese ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	8
Fresh Eggs ..	..	..	..	..	..	48	—
Fresh meat ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	48
Fresh bacon ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	16½
Totals						458	672½

Canteens.

Regular inspections are carried out of the Canteens attached to the various works in the district, together with those providing the Schools' Meals Service. The inspections include the cleanliness of the premises and utensils, the handling in the preparation of food, together with checking over the stocks of tinned foods, etc. The owners of the Canteens generally are co-operative and no difficulty is experienced in obtaining any improvements that may be necessary.

W.R.C.C. (General Powers) Act 1951—Section 120.

This section requires that premises and the person or persons carrying on the business of a Hairdresser or Barber on such premises should be registered with the Local Authority. There are still some of the premises requiring the provision of running hot and cold water, and to provide the drainage of wash basins, this difficulty chiefly arising in the case of those Ladies' Hairdressers who operate from the front room of a dwelling house. Para-certificates of Registration as to twelve premises and the persons operating are in force.

Business ceased on two premises and two additional premises were registered during the year.

Byelaws for the purpose of securing the cleanliness of premises and persons became operative on the 1st January, 1953. A copy of these Byelaws has been supplied to each of the Registered persons for their information and guidance.

Sanitary Dust Bins.

Following the adoption by the Council of a scheme operated by me, to make all replacement of Sanitary Dust Bins a charge on the General Rate Fund, I have issued during the year ended 31st December, 1955, bins as follows :—

Replacements.

Council houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	197
Privately owned houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	157

Newly erected houses.

Council	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
To private owners on prepayment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

434

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Following representations made by the Medical Officer and myself in October last year, notices authorised by the Council, were served on the owner/occupier of three caravans on the Boat Yard, Swinton, under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936, to abate the nuisance in each case, being created by the conditions existing in and around each caravan. Two of the Notices were complied with within the period of the Notice, and the caravans vacated (but not removed as required) and in the other case (owner/occupier P. Fone), the notice was not complied with and it was decided to apply to the Court for an order to abate the nuisance. An order to abate within 21 days, and costs ordered to be paid was made at the hearing held at the Rotherham (West Riding) Police Court on the 16th May, 1955. This order was not complied with in any way and it was decided to again apply to the Court for a daily penalty to be imposed. This application was heard at the same Court on the 2nd December, 1955, and a fine was imposed with a daily penalty, but at the year end no result of any kind had been achieved.

One temporary licence to site a trailer caravan on Rockingham Road for a period of three months was granted.

Dysentery.

During the early part of the year there was an outbreak of Dysentery in the District, as a result of which I obtained and delivered to the Public Health Laboratory at the Sheffield City General Hospital, 115 Faeces samples.

Diseases of Animals Act 1894-1937.**Animals (Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1927.**

One notice as to the removal of a cow from Greasborough to the Knackers Yard in Swinton under the Tuberculous Order, 1938, was received from a Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Analyses.

Four samples of water from domestic taps were taken for Bacteriological examination and all were found to be satisfactory. As a result of continuous flooding of the cellars of ten houses, by water which was clear and bright, without trace of contamination, and the water level of which could not be reduced by pumping, two samples were taken, one from a cellar and one from one of the domestic taps to attempt to find

out whether the water was from the town's supply, in view of the consistent level maintained and as a result of a Chemical and mineral examination of each water, the conclusion was reached that the water was definitely not from town's supply but was from some disused wells known to be in the immediate vicinity of the houses.

Housing.

7 houses No'd 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, White Lee Road, Swinton.

No's 3, 5, 6, 8, 9.

No. 4 (Owner-occupied).

No. 7 (Owner-occupied).

Representations were made, following inspection and report by me on the state of repair and conditions existing at the above houses, as a result of which the owners met the Housing Committee and an undertaking was given and accepted, that the houses would be put into a fit state of repair.

32 houses No'd 2 to 33 (Consecutive), William Street, Swinton.

(a) No's 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

(b) No. 4 (Owner-occupied).

(c) No's 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17.

(d) No. 13 (Owner-occupied).

(e) No's 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29.

(f) No's 30, 31, 32, 33.

(g) No. 20 (Owner-occupied).

(h) No. 27 (Owner-occupied).

Representations were made in respect of this property as previous, and there were several meetings held between the owners and the Housing Committee as to the future use of the property with the following results :

(a), (b), (e), (g), (h), undertakings were given by the owners and accepted by the Council that the repairs required by the Council in the Schedules drawn up by me would be carried out by the owners provided that no further formal action would be taken as to the future life of the property for the next fifteen years.

(c) This owner also met the Housing Committee and after consideration he was not prepared to give any undertaking and did in fact, suggest that he would accept a Demolition Order in respect of each house.

(d) In view of the action to be taken in respect of the property in (c) and an undertaking was not given by this owner and it was decided that a Demolition Order be issued in respect of this house.

A Demolition Order in respect of each of these houses (c and d) was decided upon but the actual orders were not made by the end of the year under review.

Housing.

Owing to the economic position, with work of repairs is becoming more and more difficult and the result in time, if this state continues, will be that sub-standard conditions will become more pronounced.

The scheme of Housing Repairs on Council Houses, Housing Points Scheme, etc., which was instituted as from 1st August, 1949, from which date my appointment as "Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager" took effect, has worked extremely well, and has, I am sure, achieved the objects which it set out to achieve. The work done in this direction is the subject of a separate report.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the members for their support and offer my sincere thanks to Dr. Cusiter for his great help and valued advice given to me in the performance of my duties during the year.

I beg to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Lawrence, and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

E. ADAMS,

Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager.

APPENDIX.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Number of dwelling houses in the district 3890

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. 305
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 910
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 96
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 280
- (3) Number of dwelling houses needing further action :—
- (a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 90
- (b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 215

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

- (a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 195
- (b) Number of defective dwelling houses (excluding those shown in (a) above) in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action 195

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936 :

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs 6
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
- (a) By owners 4
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. —

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 10
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
- (a) By owners 2
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. —

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation 47
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 16
- (3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 3

- (4) Any action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953?
If so, what? —

D. *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. —
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

E. *Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936.*

- (1) Number of Clearance Areas represented during the year 5
(2) Number of houses included in these areas 43
(3) Number of persons to be displaced 145
(4) Action taken during the year in respect of Clearance Areas :—
 (a) By Clearance Orders, number made 5
 (b) By Compulsory Purchase Orders, number made —
(5) Number of houses in Clearance Area demolished during the year —
(6) Number of persons re-housed from houses demolished during the year 44

4. **Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.**

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 15
 (2) Number of families dwelling therein 23
 (3) Number of persons dwelling therein 146
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 6
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 3
 (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 39

5. **New Houses.**

Number of new houses provided during the year :—

By the Local Authority—Permanent type	76
Temporary type	—
By Private Enterprise	19

6. **Housing Act, 1949.**

Section 4—Any action in connection with advances for purpose of increasing housing accommodation? —

7. **Housing Act, 1949, as amended by Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.**

Grants to persons other than Local Authorities for improvement of housing accommodation.

Any action during the year? Yes. Grants for improvements made in three instances.

